

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

P041126P0

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/020528

International filing date (day/month/year)

09.11.2005

Priority date (day/month/year)

10.11.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP	Date of completion of this opinion	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/020528

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:



the international application in the language in which it was filed



the translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rule 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material



a sequence listing



table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material



on paper



in electronic form

c. time of filing/furnishing



contained in the international application as filed



filed together with the international application in electronic form



furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/020528

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability:
citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Claims 1-8

YES

Claims

NO

Inventive step (IS)

Claims 1-8

YES

Claims

NO

Industrial applicability (IA)

Claims 1-8

YES

Claims

NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: JP 2004-311338 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.)

04 November 2004, Full text; Figs. 1 to 13

Document 2: JP 2003-74877 A (Sekisui Chemical Co., Ltd.)

12 March 2003, Full text; Figs. 1 to 5 → House

Document 3: JP 9-303792 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.)

28 November 1997, Full text; Figs. 1 to 3

Document 4: Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese
Utility Model Application No. 112536/1988 (Laid-open No. 41006/1989),
(Rinnai Corp.), 10 March 1989, Full text; Fig. 1

The inventions of claims 1 to 8 are neither described in any of the documents cited in the
ISR nor obvious to a party skilled in the art.